unions did not support the recommendations relating to private sector entry into the insurance industry, disinvestment by the Government in the existing insurance entities, and their restructuring. The managements of the insurance companies wanted to have a transition period to prepare for competition. The consumer interest groups, Chambers of Commerce and Industry and academics generally supported the Malhotra Committee recommendations. The suggestions made in these discussions will be kept in view by the Government while taking a final decision on the recommendations made by the Malhotra Committee.

Frauds in Union Bank of India

194. SIIRI RAJN1 RANJAN SAHU: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the increasing number of frauds being perpetrated on the customers in the Un ion Bank of India;

(b) whether Government arc also aware that a few employees of the Home Street Branch Bombay had defrauded the bank to the tunc of Rs.47,33,975 by manipulating the S.B. Account books of the Branch;

(c) whether the Bank has been postponing final action against Managers and Deputy Managers; and

(d) whether any CMD or other Director is also involved in this case, if so, gives details, if not whether enquiry will be conducted?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKARA MURTHY): (a) The number of frauds perpetrated in the bank during the years 1992-93, 1993-94 and 1994-95 were 60, 51 and 52 respectively involving Rs.668.02 lakhs, Rs.410.94 lakhs and Rs.224.94 lakhs respectively.

(b) to (d) The bank has reported that a few of its employees of Home Street Branch had defrauded the bank to the tune of Rs. 47,33,975/-by manipulating the SB Account Books. After regular departmental enquiry, one special assistant, one clerk and one daftary of the Home Street Branch were dismissed from the services of the bank in July, 1991. The matter has also been investigated by the CBI. Departmental proceedings have been instituted against two branch managers and one accountant of Home Street Branch for their contributory negligence on the basis of the recommendations of CBI.

" आशंकाएं संघ निकली" शीर्षक के अंतर्गत प्रकाशित समाचार

195. **श्री अनन्तराम जायसवाल** :

श्री दिग्विजय सिंह :

क्या सूचना और प्रसारण मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि**:**

(क)क्या सरकार का ध्यान दिनांक 3 जुलाई, 1995 को नई दिल्लह से प्रकाशित हिंदी दानिक "हिंदुस्तान" के पृष्ट संख्या 6 संपादकीय में "आशंकाएं सच निकली" शीर्षक से प्रकाशित समाचार की ओर दिलाया गया हैं; और

(ख)यदि हां, तो उक्त प्रकाशित समाचार पर सरकार की क्या प्रतिक्रिया है और समाचार में प्रकाशित आशंकाओं के कारण उत्पन्न समस्या का समाधान करने के लिए सरकार द्वारा क्या कदम उठाए जाने का विचार हैं?

सूचना और प्रसारण के राज्य मंत्री) श्री के0 पी सिंह देव) : (क) जी, हां।

(ख)कथित सम्पादकीय में व्यक्त विचारों के विपरीत सरकार ने इस समझौते को समग्र राष्ट्रीय हित में उपयुक्त समझा है।

Hindi Programmes Telecast From Calcutta

196. SHRI VISHNU KANT SHAS-TR1: Will the Minister of INFORMA TION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the telecasting of programmes in Hindi from

Calcutta Doordarshan, are being reduced gradually, if so, the reasons therefor;

(b) the number of programmes in Hindi at present being telecast from Calcutta Doordarshan daily and the duration of each such programme; and

(c) the number of Hindi programmes telecast from Calcutta Doordarshan during 1994. 1993 and 1992 with duration thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO): (a) and (b) No, Sir. In addition to relaying programmes of DD-1 and DD-2 Doordarshan Kendra Calcutta continues to telecast programmes in Hindi for a duration of 30 minutes every month on its primary channel and 30 minutes every week on its Regional Language Satellite service.

(c) The number of the 30 minutes programmes telecast during the period are as follows:—

1992	27
1993	18
1994	18

The number of programmes in 1995 is expected to be around 32.

Setting up of Industrial and Infrastructure Bank in North Eastern Region

197. SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA:
SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA:

Will the MINISTER OF FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Finance Minister had announced the setting up of an Industrial and Infrastructure Bank for North-East in the course of presentation of the last budget; and

(b) if so, what steps are being taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKARA MURTHY): (a) ! In his Budget Speech of 1995-%, Finance Minister inter alia announced that with a views to accelerating industrial' development a new North Eastern Development Bank would be established to finance creation, expansion and modernisation of industrial enterprises and infrastructure projects in the region.

(b) Industrial Development Bank of India (IDBI) has been assigned the responsibility of setting up of the North Eastern Development Bank (now registered by the name of North Eastern Development Finance Corporation Limited). The Corporation would have an authorised capital of Rs 500 crorcs and initial paid-up capital of Rs. 100 crorcs to be contributed by various financial institutions/banks. The Memorandum and Articles of Association for the new Corporation have been finalised. IDBI has also identified a Chief Executive to head the Corporation and also prepared a preliminary list of persons for induction on the board of the Corporation.

Strike threatened by ICPA

198. SHRI B.K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the recent agitation by the ICPA has prompted the Government to review its policy of ad-hocism in dealing with staff relations matters and formulate a long-term personnel relation package;

(b) what are the plans to be put into operation in case the ICPA strike threat persists; and

(c) what is the quantum of business lost both in terms of passengers flown/ revenuw earned because of the ICPA-engineered strike and whether the IA would be able to regain the patronage from private air-taxi operators in the event the situation normalises?